STAGGERING FORWARD AND REVERSE WIRELESS CHANNEL ALLOCATION TIMING

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for staggering forward and reverse channel time slot allocation in a wireless communication allows a wireless communication unit, such as a base station processor or a subscriber access unit, to transmit a return message in less than a full time slot interval. Forward and reverse channel allocation occurs as a cycle of time slots occurring at periodic timing intervals. Transmission of a wireless frame carrying a message payload occurs at the beginning of the time slot. Since the forward and reverse channel allocation cycles need not be concurrent, or in phase, these cycles may be staggered with respect to each other. By staggering the forward and reverse channel allocation timing interval, the return message is sent after only a portion of a full timing interval, rather than being delayed up to one complete timing interval.